Book	Policy Manual
Section	0000/1000 - Community/Board Operations
Title	~~Board of Education Meetings~~
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Public Comment & Correspondence at Board Meetings

~~BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS~~

Public Participation at Board of Education Meetings

The regular and special meetings of the Board of Education are open to the public and representatives of the press except that a part of any meeting may be designated an executive session as provided by law.

The Board of Education welcomes participation of ~~interested organizations and individuals.~~ A Advance announcement of all regular and special meetings of the Board of Education is made through posting the agenda, ~~on District website, through notices to newspapers, and/or directly to citizens and community and professional organizations who specifically request such notification. A reasonable charge may be made for those persons or organizations requesting advance announcements of meetings and agenda backup materials.~~ publicly as required by law.

Board meetings are meetings held in public and are not open hearings. Once the Board moves into regular agenda the public may participate as allowed by the Chairperson and with the following restrictions:

1. Questions and/or comments are to be restricted to the specific agenda item s being discussed~~;~~ .
2. Public comment shall be allowed during the "Public Comment" agenda item~~s~~ only~~;~~ .
3. ~~Board members shall be recognized first for comments and/or questions;~~
3. ~~4.~~ Questions and/or comments by the public may be restricted by the ~~Board~~ Chairperson, including the length of time for each comment~~; and~~ .
4. ~~5.~~ The Chairperson may, at his/her discretion, curtail public discussion at any time~~.~~ to ensure civility and stay on agenda topics.

Any citizen may appear before the Board to express his/her opinion concerning the educational program of the district in correlation to any open agenda item for a specific meeting. The Board encourages members of the public to address complaints concerning individual District personnel through the proper chain of command. The Board agenda provides opportunities for comments and questions from persons attending the meeting. Persons wishing to address the Board must ~~should~~ give their ~~names and addresses.~~name, street address, and agenda topic(s) for comment B. & C.

Board Relations with Community Organizations

It is the intention of the Board of Education to cooperate fully with appropriate officials, Boards, committees, or other agencies of the town, and with organized groups of interested citizens of the town. Any such individual or group requesting a meeting with the Board of Education should present its request to the Chairperson of the Board, or the Superintendent, in ample time to allow for proper preparation of agenda items, notification of Board members, and establishment of a meeting time and place.

Legal

Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-206 Denial of access to public records or meetings. Appeals. Notice. Orders. Civil penalty. Petition for relief from vexatious requester. Service of process upon commission. Frivolous appeals. Appeal re state hazardous waste program records.

Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-225 Meetings of government agencies to be public. Recording of votes. Schedule and agenda of certain meetings to be filed and posted on web sites. Notice of special meetings. Executive sessions.

Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-226 Recording, broadcasting or photographing meetings.

~~Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-227 Mailing of notice of meetings to persons filing written request. Fees.~~

Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-230 Regular meetings to be held pursuant to regulation, ordinance or resolution.

Conn. Gen. Stat. §1-232 Conduct of meetings.

Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-238 Petition for hearing by board of education.

Conn. Gen. Stat. §19a-342 Smoking prohibited. Exceptions. Signs required. Penalties.

Cross References

1312 - General Complaint Procedures

A = all members of the school community including, but not limited to: residents of the town of Colchester, employees of Colchester Public Schools (CPS), parents and/or legal guardians of children attending CPS, and CPS students.

B. verbally or through a sign-up sheet which may be provided by the Board. If you reside outside of Colchester, please state your relationship to CPS.

C. Written correspondence to the Board shall be summarized by the Board Secretary or designee after public comment. Full correspondence may be attached to the meeting minutes at determination of the Board Chair.